



Operation Pacific Survivor – Fort Hunter Liggett, CA

DAILY BLADE

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“... we don’t need no stinking GPS!”

Spc. Oliver Ojih wiped the sweat off his neck, looked at a map grid and continued tramping through the sheet grass.

“Back this way, Ojih,” the other two members of his team shouted. This was a land navigation course and not one member of the team was using a compass.

“We had a bad compass,” team member Sgt. Eduardo Acosta said. “So, we had to use terrain association and go off our grid coordinates in order to find our points.”

Amazingly, the team managed to find two points out of four – some teams found none.

Shrugging his shoulders, Acosta said, “You just have to readjust to your situation. You can’t always depend on your equipment, and what happened to us here is a perfect scenario.”



“No doubt, I learned how to readjust fire,” the third team member, Pfc. Jason Zant said. “It also showed the importance of teamwork.”

The training scenario, though, did not include any broken compasses. According to Sgt. 1st Class Jorge Alvarez, the NCOIC for the Land Navigation course, the heat, pace counting and reference points have posed the most challenges to Soldiers during the past nine days of the exercise. The training is one of nine training lanes for Operation Pacific Warrior.

Each class is broken down into teams. Each team is given a map with four marked points. Each team is tasked to find the four points.

“Land navigation is always easy to forget because you don’t use it all the time,” Alvarez said.

Alvarez said the instruction begins with classes and then moves into the practical exercise of finding points over real terrain.

Ojih said, “Before today, I wasn’t too confident on land navigation, but I’m very confident now.”

Article and photos by Master Sgt. Ted Bartimus



Pfc. Jason Zant, Sgt. Eduardo Acosta and Spc. Oliver Ojih, search for points marked on their map in the Land Navigation course. The team had a broken compass but managed to find two points despite the rough terrain and high temperatures. Some teams with good compasses found less points. “...we had to use terrain association and go off our grid coordinates in order to find our points,” Sgt. Acosta said after the end of the exercise.



Team members Spc. Oliver Ojih, Pfc. Jason Zant, Sgt. Eduardo Acosta hold up the broken compass they had to contend with during their Land Navigation course. The team ended up using terrain features and reference points to find assigned points on rough terrain.



BLOOD AND FIRE

Hey short timers it's countdown time, three training days to go!

PACIFIC SURVIVOR 2006 — OUTPROCESSING CHECKLIST

*** Each item on the checklist must be initialed by the GSU staff section responsible.**

A. S4: TURN IN OF EQUIPMENT (*SHOW CLEARED HAND RECEIPT*)

- a. WEAPON* _____ (Bldg 207, 205, or 208)
- b. TA-50 /OCIE* _____ (Bldg 208-Connex)
- c. CELL PHONE* _____ (Bldg 241 – DOIM)
- d. COMPUTERS* _____ (Bldg 241 – DOIM)
- e. PRINTERS* _____ (Bldg 241 – DOIM)
- f. MOTOROLA RADIO* _____ (ECS-170)
- g. SINCGARS RADIO* _____ (ECS-170)
- h. VEHICLE (ECS-170)* _____ (ECS-170)
- i. LINEN* _____ (Bldg 208)
- j. ROOM KEY* _____ (Bldg 229)
- k. REPORT OF SURVEY _____ (Bldg 208)
- l. STATEMENT OF CHARGES FOR MISSING EQUIPMENT
_____ (Bldg 243/208 SFC Hayes)

B. S3: TRAINING

- a. QUALIFICATION RECORDS _____ (Bldg 241)
- b. TRAINING DOCUMENTATION _____ (Bldg 241)

C. S1: PERSONNEL

- a. AWARD _____ (Bldg 241)
- b. 63rd RRC CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION _____ (Bldg 241)
- c. LINE OF DUTY COMPLETED (HHD) _____ (Bldg 241)
- d. CAC SWIPE (**LAST STATION**) _____ (Bldg 241)

Chaplain's thought for the day:
"Grief can take care of itself, but to get the full value of a joy you must have somebody to divide it with." Mark Twain



"They sent me all the way to Fort Hunter Liggett, and all I got is this crazy hat," said this Soldier, as he waits his turn on the grenade training lane.

**Reminder! NO ALCOHOL possession or consumption throughout the duration of Operation Pacific Survivor
ZERO TOLERANCE**



Col. Sam Friar reminds staff to get ready for the final days of training and ensure all Soldiers know what to do to get processed out without problems.

The Daily Blade is published by the Operation Pacific Survivor Public Affairs Office, under the 6045 and 5035 GSU Commands and the 63rd RRC PAO Office Col. Joel Mjolsness 6045th and Samuel L. Friar 5035th, Commanding. PAO is located at Fort Hunter Liggett in Building 286. Story ideas can be submitted by phone (562-338-8947) or e-mail (patricia.e.ryan@usar.army.mil)